

Attorney's Case No: 1-771

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Robert C. Berfield	Art Unit:
Serial No:		Examiner:
Filed:		
Title:	Hose Holder	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A corrugated hose and a holder for the hose wherein the holder comprises two spaced apart support members, each member mounted on a support and including at least one rib located outwardly from the support and facing the rib on the other member, a corrugated hose with valleys, the hose having an elastically bowed portion and side sections located to either side of the bowed portion, the side sections positioned between the ribs, said side sections being biased away from each other by the bowed portion so that one valley on each side section engages one rib on each member to support the hose.

2. (original) The holder of claim 1 wherein at least one rib on each member includes a lip located outwardly from the rib and facing the rib on the other member.

3. (original) The holder of claim 2 wherein the lip is located distally from the support.

4. (original) The holder of claim 3 wherein at least one rib on each member includes two lips, each lip being located on opposite ends of the rib.

5. (original) The holder of claim 1 wherein the ribs are generally horizontal and the hose extends generally vertically.

6. (original) The holder of claim 1 wherein the ribs are generally vertical and the hose extends generally horizontally.

7. (currently amended) The holder of claim 1 wherein the support comprises a wall and the support members are mounted on the wall or on studs extending from the wall.

8. (currently amended) The holder of claim 1 wherein the members are secured to parts of a vacuum cleaner body.

9. (currently amended) The tool of claim 1 wherein the holders are each formed from a one-piece integral molded plastic body.

10. (currently amended) A holder for corrugated hose comprising:

a pair of support members, each member having a base including a first support panel, a second support panel, an arm panel, an attachment panel, a first hinge joining the first support panel to the second support panel, a second hinge joining the second support panel to the arm panel and a third hinge joining the arm panel to the attachment panel, said panels and hinges forming an integral plastic body, each first support panel having at least one ~~hose~~ engaging a hose-engaging rib extending outwardly therefrom.

11. (original) The holder as in claim 10 including a lip on each rib.

12. (original) The holder as in claim 11 including a lip on each end of each rib.

13. (original) The holder as in claim 10 wherein each member is mounted on a support surface so that the rib panel extends generally perpendicularly from a wall.

14. (currently amended) ~~The holder~~ Two holders as in claim 11 ~~including and~~ a corrugated vacuum cleaner hose wherein the hose has a plurality of valleys and is placed between the two holders, the hose having one or more elastically bowed sections, each bowed section having side sections engaging said ribs.


15. (currently amended) A method of supporting a corrugated hose on a support comprising the steps of:

- a) mounting a ~~two~~ pair of ribs on a support so that each rib faces the other rib;
- b) forming a ~~coil~~ bend with end portions in a corrugated hose;
- c) elastically stressing the ~~coil~~ bend so that end portions on the hose resist the stress force;
- d) placing the hose between the pair of ribs;
- e) releasing the hose between the pair of ribs so that the end portions move apart and valleys on the end portions engage the ribs to support the hose.

Respectfully submitted,

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